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7

Today's weather



Partly sunny

Low 46° High 76°

March Madness on the mat

IN SPORTS, 16

Hollywood going green — just a publicity trick?

IN SPOTLIGHT, 9

Volume LXX, Number 107

Thursday, March 15, 2007

www.mustangdaily.com

CSU approves 10% student fee increase

Brittany Ridley
MUSTANG DAILY

The California State University Board of Trustees approved a 10 percent increase in state university student fees for the 2007-08 school year.

Undergraduate students will pay an additional \$252 per year while graduate students pay an additional \$312, said Clara Potes-Fellow, spokesperson for the California State University system.

"Students are usually opposed to fee increases like this because it is a 10 percent increase to sustain the quality of education," said Todd Maki, Associated Students Inc. president. "It doesn't give us any improvements."

The fee increases mandated by the CSU system do not provide students with improvements but instead maintains what students already have, Maki said.

"At Cal Poly we have the college-based fee that was voted on five years ago, but that fee goes directly to increase the quality of the education we receive," said Maki.

Potes-Fellow said students should be pleased with this fee increase; the system is insuring quality education and maintaining the budget they are used to having.

"I think the fees should increase 30 or 40 percent," said Chuck Hagen, a Cal Poly philosophy professor. "Students would probably say they are getting as good of an education at Cal Poly as they would get at a UC. So, why shouldn't they be paying what the UC students pay?"

Higher fees for the CSU system also guarantee more financial aid. Potes-Fellow said aid will increase dollar for dollar for students that have the highest economic need.

"Approximately 145,000 students from the CSU system see Fees, page 2



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Firefighters extinguished a blaze caused by a truck that hit a power pole. As a result, 3,500 people lost power.

Lights out in SLO

Giana Magnoli
MUSTANG DAILY

A semi truck hit a power pole at the intersection of Osos and Walnut streets on Wednesday, causing the pole to snap and power lines to fall to the ground.

Power outages caused by the accident affected more than 3,500 people in San Luis Obispo, PG&E spokesperson Sharon Gavin said.

The accident occurred at 2:27 p.m. as the truck was

see Outages, page 7

BY THE NUMBERS

23,000

The number of faculty and staff in the CSU represented by the CFA.

23

The percentage by which CSU executives' salaries have been increased since 2005.

3.5

The percentage by which the CSU faculty's salaries have been increased since 2005.

25.75

The salary increase percentage CFA demands over the next four years.

To strike or not to strike

Josh Krane
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly faculty will finish voting today on whether or not to authorize a two-day strike that would likely take place next month.

Results of the vote from all California State University campuses will be announced on Wednesday.

The strike vote stems from the failure of the California Faculty Association and CSU Administration to reach a consensus on a new faculty labor agreement, which has been in negotiations for nearly two years.

The CFA hopes the threat of a strike will force the administration to come to a settlement.

"Part of the strategy for having this vote is to bring both sides back to the negotiating table," said Richard Saenz, physics professor and president of the CFA's Cal Poly chapter. "As long as we're negotiating, no one is going to strike."

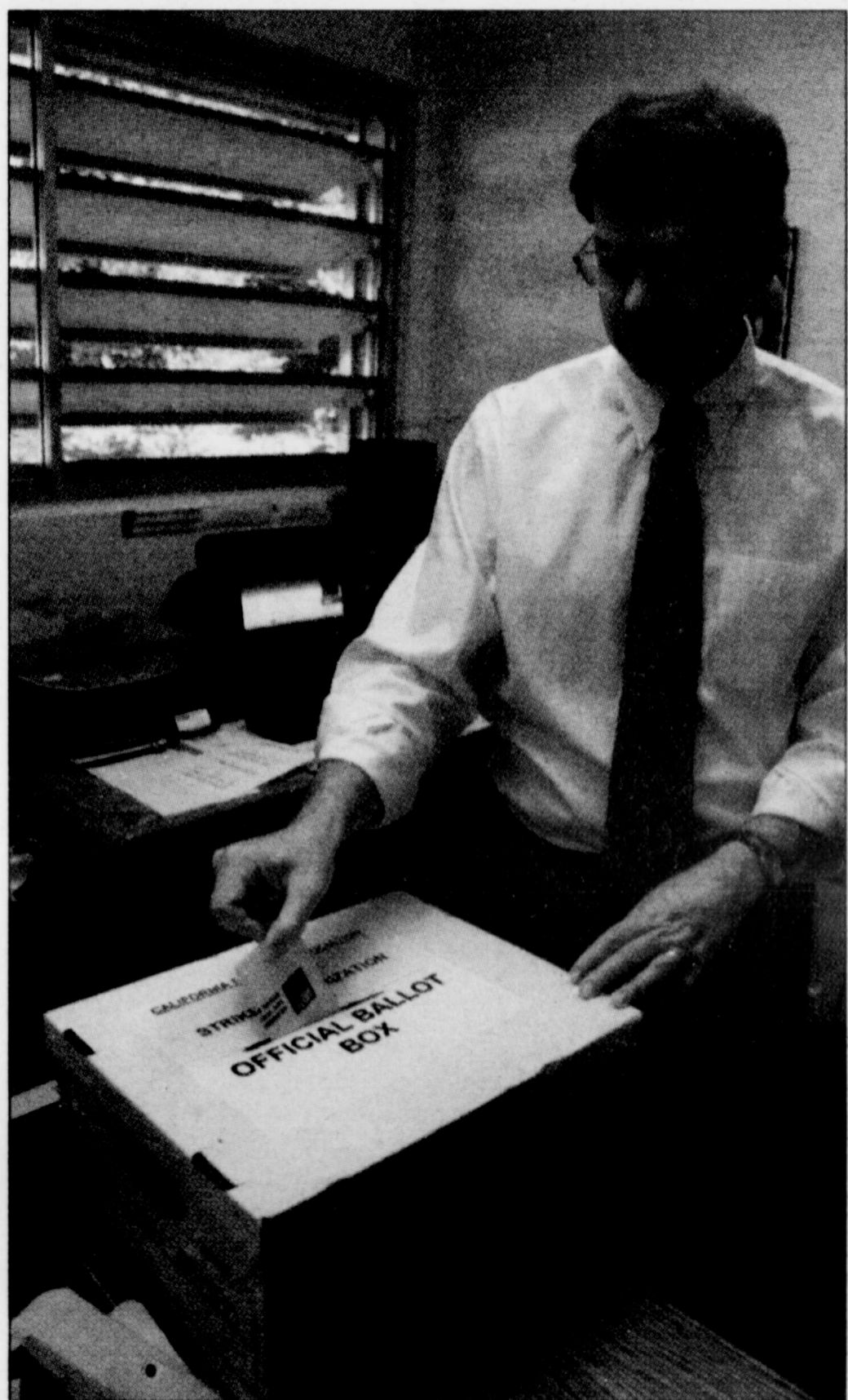
If the strike is authorized and implemented, faculty from CSU campuses across the state would participate in rolling two-day walkouts, likely throughout April. Separating the strikes would lengthen the process, Saenz said, hopefully creating more publicity for the faculty's cause. The tactic would also have the least impact on students, he said.

Faculty would only strike as a last resort, Saenz said.

"Strikes don't do anyone any good," he said. "Students lose class, faculty lose money and the school gets bad publicity. But sometimes it's necessary."

A third party fact-finder is expected to finish a report in the coming days, which will offer recommendations on reaching a settlement. The recommendations, which are nonbinding, will be

see Strike, page 6



BRENNAN ANGEL MUSTANG DAILY

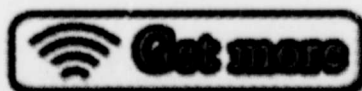
Mathematics professor Kent Morrison voted Tuesday in the California Faculty Association's strike authorization vote.

Academic Senate sets courseware deadline

Kristen Marschall
MUSTANG DAILY

The Academic Senate passed a resolution on Tuesday in a nearly unanimous vote to implement a six-week deadline for faculty members to inform El Corral Bookstore of the next quarter's instructional materials.

The resolution served as a response to a demand by the office of California State University Chancellor Charles B. Reed dating back to December 2004, in which Reed asked the CSUs to address the issue of instructional materials for



Check out mustangdaily.com for further context behind the decision.

students with disabilities. The proposed deadline would allow the university to be compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and also let the Disability Resource Center (DRC) format instructional materials to suit students' disabilities.

"Some students don't read standard text," said Trey Duffy, director of the

DRC. "If we don't know what that text is, we can't convert it."

The bookstore typically sends out requests to faculty members about eight weeks before the beginning of the quarter to send their planned courseware. However, professors are rarely on time with their responses.

In fall 2006, only 9 percent of the 1,250 professors turned in their textbook information on time. Over the next three months, 44 percent more responded and 45 percent did during the

see Courseware, page 2

Fees

continued from page 1

tem will not feel the impact of this fee increase," Potes-Fellow said. "Out of the 10 percent increase alone, \$38 million will be set aside for financial aid."

This is not the first time students have faced a raise in tuition. Due to a \$500 million budget cut, fees increased 14 percent in 2004-05 and 8 percent in 2005-06. It wasn't until the 2006-07 school year that Gov. Schwarzenegger provided \$54.4 million in order to eliminate the possibility of an 8 percent increase, according to a CSU press release.

Faculty may also be affected by the fee increase. CSU faculty have been bargaining for a salary adjustment for the past two years and have yet to come to a conclusion, and this fee increase could affect that situation, Maki said.

"I know that faculty are generally opposed to fee increases as well as students, but funding their salary increase calls upon paying professors money that does not currently exist," Maki said. "So, it seems like fee increases may help cover any faculty salary increase."

Although student fee increases do not go directly to faculty salaries, student fees are part of the

CSU budget along with general funds from the state, Potes-Fellow said.

"If you put these two sources of money from students and the state together, that revenue pays for faculty and staff salaries along with other university operations," said Potes-Fellow. "Seventy-five percent of that revenue goes to salaries."

Phillip Tong, dairy science professor and director of the Dairy Product Technology Center, said he supports the fee increases if the money goes toward providing more time for faculty to do the things they are here to do and not toward administrative purposes.

"If they actually do genuinely provide more time for faculty to provide more to the students then I am in favor of it," Tong said. "If it goes to the administration to release some of the administrative burden on faculty, then I am also for it, but oftentimes these things get into piling on more administrative stuff and actually increase the burden on faculty and those kinds of things are very disappointing."

Even with the recent fee increase, CSU fees continue to be among the lowest compared to other public universities.

Courseware

continued from page 1

"month of rush." An additional 2 percent of faculty responded after the month of rush.

"Before, there really was no policy," said Andrew Schaffner, an associate professor of statistics. "The bookstore made the request and professors could honor it or not."

Furthermore, professors are not obligated to order courseware through El Corral Bookstore, but they are required to inform them of their planned texts.

There are currently about 550 students on campus with permanent disabilities, but not all of them require different texts. In fall 2006, 68 students required alternate formats of texts and the DRC processed a total of 49,692 pages into other forms.

Duffy said these alternate materials are processed to be "anything from large print to Braille to various forms of audio output," whether it be cassettes, CDs, Mp3s or text files that can be read by their computers. This process is funded by the university and requires a scanner and several student employees.

"That's why we're asking for the six weeks in the first place," Duffy said. "The more time we have, the easier it is for us."

During the senate meeting, Associated Students Inc. President Todd Maki requested that the six-week deadline be changed to eight as "a call for help on behalf of the students" to make textbooks cheaper and improve buyback rates.

Maki argued that when the bookstore knows the need for courseware in advance, the buyback prices increase and the bookstore can order more used

books.

Having previously spoken with the DRC and the bookstore, Maki said both facilities would prefer the eight-week deadline, as opposed to the implemented six weeks.

"Six weeks was kind of an arbitrary number," he said, adding that by extending the number to eight, students, the DRC and the bookstore were all at an advantage.

However, the Academic Senate did not approve the request — in fact, only six members did.

"I had hopes (it would pass)," Maki said. "Judging by the debate, they're focused on doing their jobs the best they can. I don't think that they don't have students in mind, but judging by the vote..."

Maki and the ASI Board of Directors met Wednesday afternoon to discuss the matter and decided to postpone their own resolution on the matter until mid-April.

Nonetheless, there is agreement that the overall six-week deadline will improve the situation.


"Six weeks seem reasonable without being onerous to the faculty — teachers might like a little more flexibility," Duffy said. "In a perfect world, eight weeks would be ideal."

Schaffner echoed the sentiment.

"It will benefit the general student body to comply with the disability law," he said.

Though the executive order passed in 2004, Duffy said it was "not until this last September that there was really direction." The resolution must be submitted by the CSU's June 15 deadline.

El Corral Bookstore representatives were not available for comment.



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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

6			1		2			3
2	3						8	5
	9						7	
3				5				6
	7		8		6		9	
4				2				7
	1						2	
9	4						3	8
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Briefs

State

SAN JOSE (AP) — Former Hewlett-Packard Co. board chairwoman Patricia Dunn and three others accused in the company's boardroom spying scandal will plead guilty to misdemeanor charges Wednesday, the state attorney general's office said.

Under a deal with prosecutors, Dunn, former HP ethics chief Kevin Hunsaker, and private investigators Ronald DeLia and Matthew Depante each will plead guilty to a single count of fraudulent wire communications. The pleas will be entered by their lawyers on behalf of the defendants, who were not expected to attend the 10 a.m. hearing.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A California woman whose doctor says marijuana is the only medicine keeping her alive is not immune from federal prosecution on drug charges, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday.

The case was brought by Angel Raich, an Oakland mother of two who suffers from scoliosis, a brain tumor, chronic nausea and other ailments. On her doctor's advice, she eats or smokes marijuana every couple of hours to ease her pain and bolster a nonexistent appetite.

National

WASHINGTON (AP) — Breaking a parliamentary roadblock, the Senate on Wednesday began its first formal debate on the Iraq war since Democrats took control of Congress, taking up a measure calling for President Bush to withdraw combat troops by the end of next March.

The White House swiftly issued a veto threat. The 89-9 vote paved the way for consideration of the Democratic legislation, which would start troop withdrawals within four months and calls for — but does not require — the complete removal of combat troops by the end of March 2008.

The vote came after many Republicans abandoned the tactic they had used earlier this year to twice prevent the Senate from considering legislation aimed at forcing an end to the war.

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks fell Wednesday, pulling the Dow Jones industrials through the psychological 12,000 barrier for the first time since Nov. 6 as concerns about faltering subprime mortgage lenders extended a broad selloff in stocks. The Dow first crossed the 12,000 mark in October.

International

NEW DELHI (AP) — Two people who allegedly sold the suitcases used to make bombs that ignited deadly fires on a train linking India and Pakistan have been arrested, police said Wednesday, announcing the first arrests in the attack that killed 68 people.

The men were picked up Tuesday in the central Indian city of Indore, where authorities believe the bombers bought suitcases that were stuffed with explosives and petrol, said R.C. Mishra, a senior police official.

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (AP) — Angelina Jolie arrived in Vietnam late Wednesday night, where she plans to adopt a 3-year-old boy.

Airport security officials told a photographer working for The Associated Press that Jolie was whisked into a car with dark windows and driven away.

The actress was expected to attend an adoption ceremony with Vietnamese officials in Ho Chi Minh City on Thursday morning, according to adoption officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about the matter.

Democrats cite Bush administration secrecy as they push open government agenda

Jim Abrams
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The House Wednesday passed three bills to open government records to the public, brushing aside White House opposition, and in one case, a veto threat.

The measures, highlighting the media-led Sunshine Week, would force government to be more responsive to Freedom of Information Act requests, make contributions to presidential libraries public and overturn a 2001 presidential directive giving the president authority to keep his records from public view.

The White House issued a veto threat on the presidential records bill and voiced opposition to the FOIA legislation. It also said the president would veto a fourth bill the House is to debate later Wednesday on whistleblower protections. Democrats say the bills, several of which were also taken up in past Republican-led Congresses, were needed to shine light on what they say has been one of the most secretive administrations in decades.

The White House said it was against the FOIA bill because it was "premature and counterproductive" to legislate new requirements on federal agencies before they have a chance to implement changes the president previously outlined.

The votes were 390-34 on the presidential library bill, 333-93 on the presidential records bill and 308-117 on the FOIA legislation.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, meanwhile held a hearing on a parallel FOIA bill, introduced by Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., and John Cornyn, R-Texas, to improve administration of the law and provide penalties for agencies that fail to comply in a timely fashion.

Media representatives said seven agencies have gone more than a decade without responding to some requests for information under the act. They endorsed the bill's noncompliance penalties, its provisions to allow people to track the progress of their requests and its provisions to recompense requesters for attorneys fees when they successfully sue for records that were denied.

Tom Curley, president and CEO of The Associated Press and a member of the Sunshine in Government Initiative, a media coalition, said that AP's legal battles to obtain information about terror detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, had cost "well into six figures," but the Pentagon proposed to reimburse only \$11,000. Under current law, "we'll have to sue again to get a higher, fairer number," he said.

The House bill goes a step further than the Senate version in restoring a "presumption of disclosure" standard that obliges agencies to release requested information unless there is a finding that such a disclosure could do harm.

That would overturn a memo issued by former Attorney General John Ashcroft after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks advising against the release of information when there was uncertainty over security or law enforcement exemptions.

The White House, in its statement, said it "strongly opposes" the House provision, arguing it would upset the balance between the public's right to know and the need to safeguard certain information.

The 40-year-old FOIA law was a promise that people could find out what their government was doing "in all but a few kinds of highly sensitive or confidential matters," Curley said in his statement. "The law does back them. But in many cases the government doesn't back the law."

Democrats claimed that situation has worsened under the Bush administration.

"For the past six years, we have had an administration that has tried to operate in secrecy, without transparency, without the public having knowledge about their action," said Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

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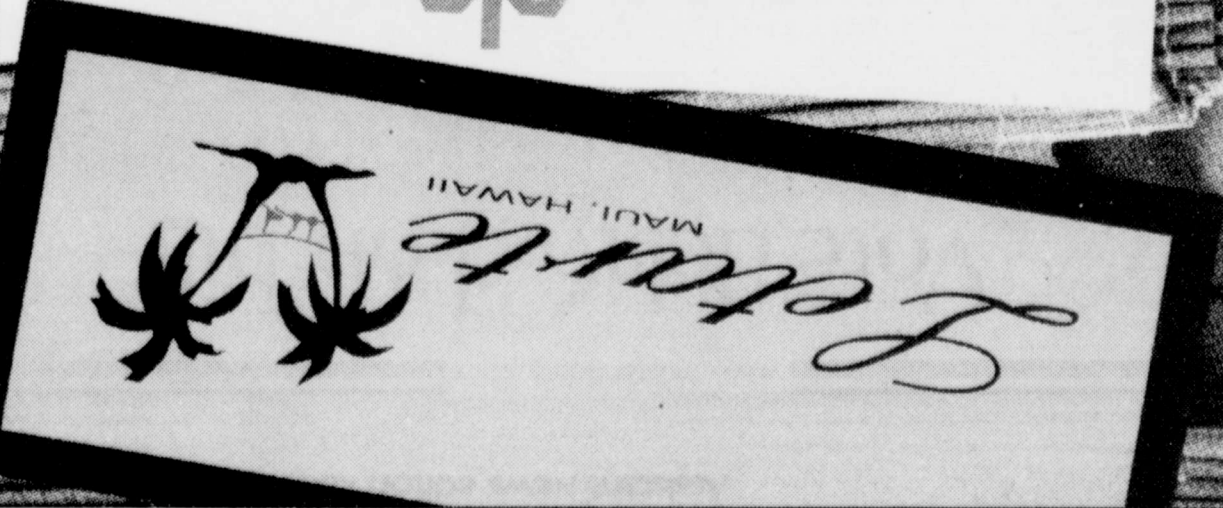
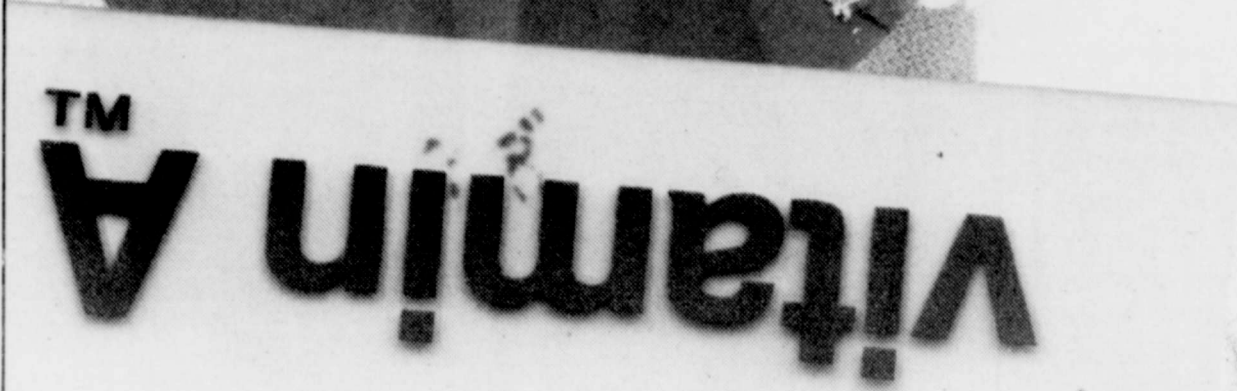
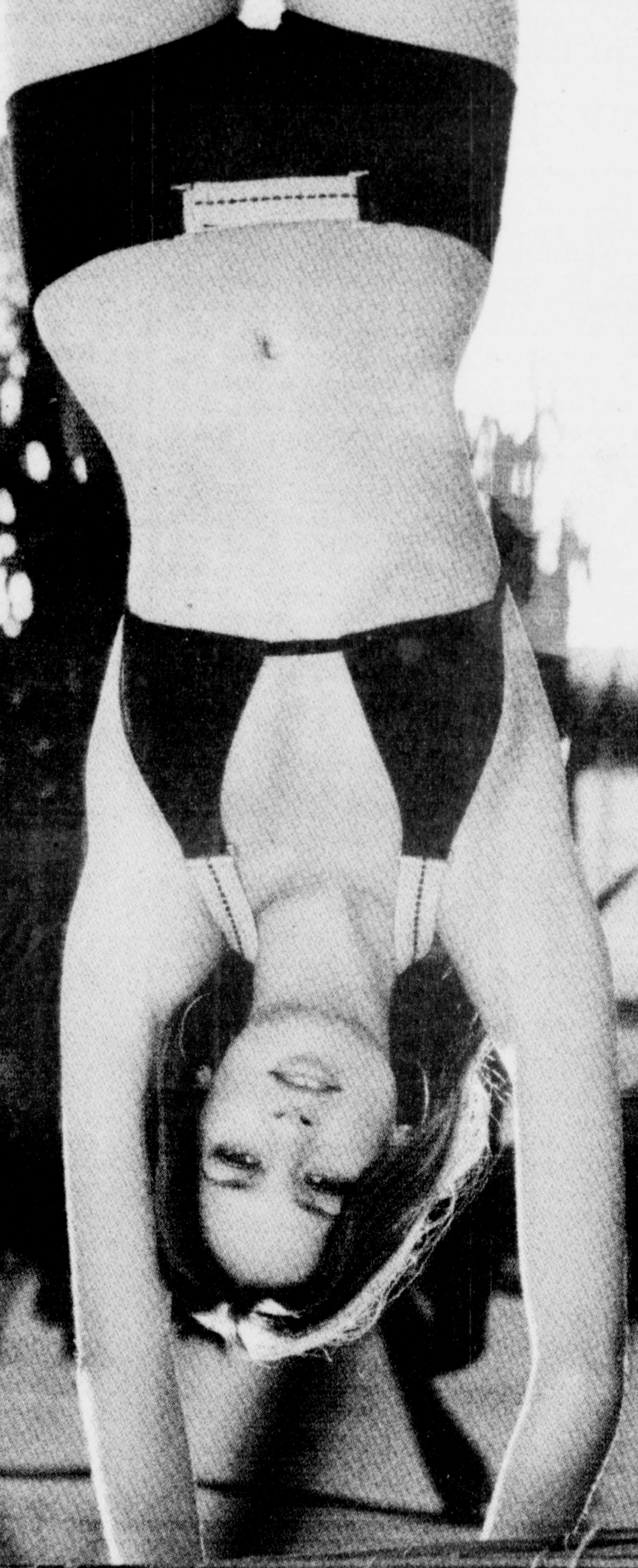


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Judge finds Sudan responsible for terrorist bombing of USS Cole that killed 17 sailors

Sonja Barisic
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORFOLK, Va. — A federal judge said Wednesday that Sudan is responsible for the bombing of the USS Cole but he needs more time to determine damages for the families of the 17 sailors killed when terrorists bombed the ship in 2000.

"There is substantial evidence in this case presented by the expert testimony that the government of Sudan induced the particular bombing of the Cole by virtue of prior actions of the government of Sudan," U.S. District Judge Robert G. Doumar said.

The civil trial started Tuesday in which the victims' relatives tried to prove the terrorist attack couldn't have happened without Sudan's support.

Doumar said that he would issue a written opinion later to fully explain his ruling. He requested additional paperwork, including tax returns of the sailors killed, to determine the appropriate damages.

"Words can't express the loss my family has gone through," Shalala Swenonchis-Wood, whose brother died, testified Wednesday. "It's not financial, it's not material, it's

always the things, the little things you don't see."

Four experts on terrorism, including R. James Woolsey, CIA director from early 1993 to early 1995, also testified in person or by deposition Tuesday to support the families' position that al-Qaida needed the African nation's help to carry out the attack.

"It would not have been as easy — it might have been possible — but it would not have been as easy," Woolsey said in a videotaped deposition, without Sudan providing economic support, places to train and false documents.

The experts testified that Sudan has given safe haven to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network since 1991 — long before Yemeni operatives attacked the Cole.

They cited testimony from other trials, a declassified Canadian intelligence report, U.S. State Department reports and their own studies as they testified that Sudan let terrorist training camps operate within its borders and gave al-Qaida members diplomatic passports so they could travel without scrutiny and diplomatic pouches to ship explosives and weapons without being searched.

Strike

continued from page 1

made public later this month.

According to an official organization pamphlet, the CFA is seeking a 25.75 percent raise in salary over the next four years, including the current year. While the administration's proposal comes close to matching this amount (24.87 percent over four years according to its Web site), the CFA claims a large portion of that figure is based on unapproved government funding, making the offer far less than advertised.

"Roughly 9 percent of that proposal isn't guaranteed," Saenz said. "It's smoke and mirrors on the administration's part."

CSU spokesperson Paul Browning said the administration's proposal is excellent and one he is surprised the CFA hasn't already accepted.

"It's not a matter of faculty asking too much, it's a matter of how much we have to give," he said. "We've offered them the maximum amount we can."

If CSU faculty do not receive a raise this year, they could be paid 18 percent less than faculty in comparable institutions nationwide, according to a report published last year by the Postsecondary Education Commission.

Mechanical engineering instructor Glen Thorncroft, in his ninth year at Cal Poly, said faculty need a pay raise to keep pace with the rising cost of living.

"The dollars we're paid aren't worth what they once were," he said. "We're already underpaid compared to our sister institutions. Specifically at Cal Poly, the cost of living is outrageous. All faculty come to Cal Poly knowing they won't get rich, but we haven't taken a vow of poverty."

The faculty labor agreement expired in July 2005 and has been extended several times as negotiations have proceeded.

Microsoft to acquire voice-search provider

Jessica Mintz
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — Microsoft said Wednesday it will buy Tellme Networks Inc., which provides cell phone directory assistance and voice-enabled mobile search.

Terms were not released.

Microsoft Corp. said Tellme's technology adds to its own efforts to let people control computers and mobile devices through speech, rather than a keyboard. The Redmond-based software maker said Tellme's voice-enabled services may be incorporated into its unified communications platform, which combines e-mail, instant messaging and phone, as well as mobile search.

"Speech is universal, simple and holds incredible promise as a key interface for computing," said Steve Ballmer, chief executive officer of Microsoft.

"Tellme was founded with the idea that anyone should be able to simply say what they want and get it from any device, starting with the phone," said Mike McCue, CEO of Tellme.



Shares of Microsoft rose 30 cents to \$27.01 in midday trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market.


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Outages

continued from page 1

taking the off-ramp of U.S. Highway 101. The trailer's rear wheels left the road and hit the pole, which then hit the pole's guy wire, said John Madden, a fire investigator with the San Luis Obispo Fire Department.

The fallen power lines also started a small, contained grass fire that burned an inflammable material.

While some customers were only without power for 20 minutes, 36 were still awaiting repairs hours later.

"By 6:30 p.m., we hope to have power restored to everyone," Gavin said. "We have crews on site doing repair on the poles and wires."

In addition to many residential areas, blocks of the downtown area experienced outages. This included City Hall, the San Luis Obispo County Courthouse

buildings, the San Luis Obispo City-County Library, parking garages and stores.

"It was out for almost an hour or more," said Don Schlotterbeck, a volunteer at City Hall. "In fact, the phone just came back on (at around 3:20 p.m.)."

Despite the outages, all of these locations stayed open.

"We were going to work in the dark," said Shawnita Green, an employee at the San Luis Obispo City-County Library.

Urban Outfitters reverted to selling merchandise the old-fashioned way, with calculators and write-in receipts.

They helped "probably seven or eight" customers this way before getting power back, manager Allison Barnes said.

"There's the freeway coming off and you're coming on ... just bad news," Schlotterbeck said of the intersection where the accident took place.

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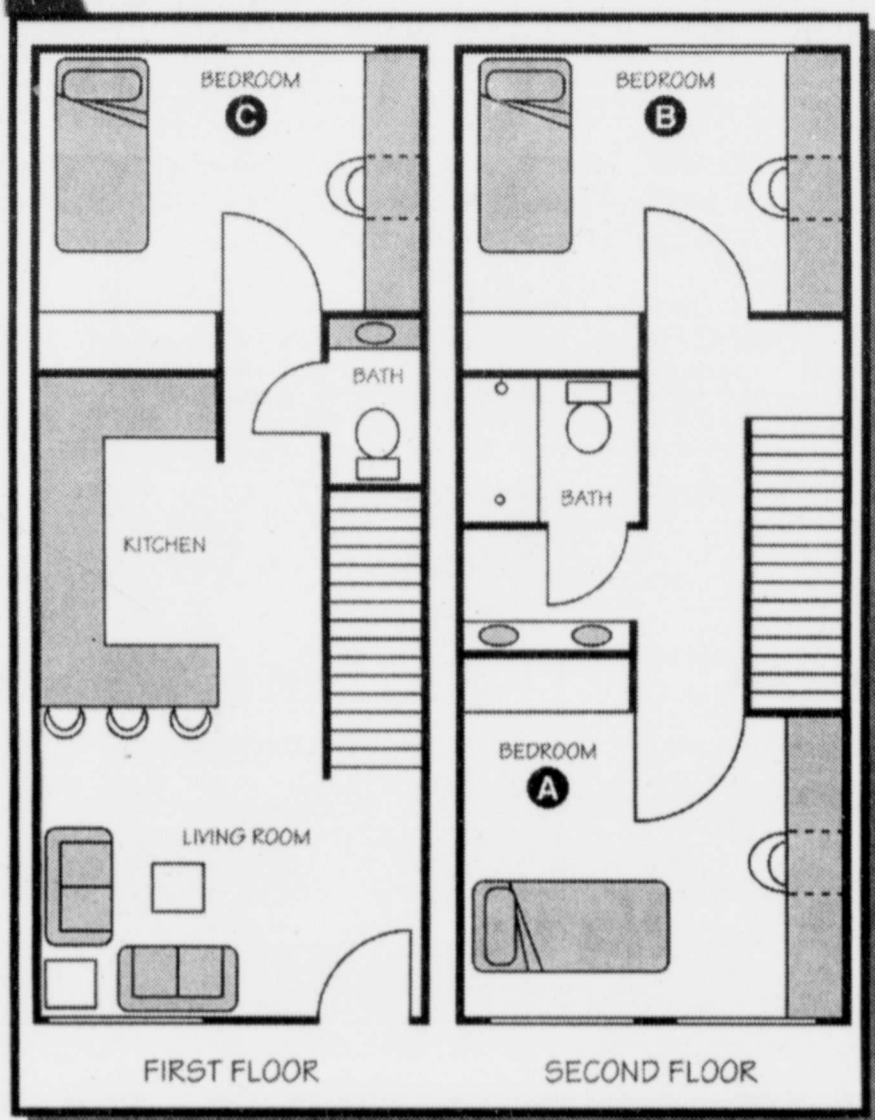
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Time to go gaga for the opera

From Verdi's "La Traviata" to Puccini's "La Bohème," Maria Callas to Plácido Domingo, Italian opera has infiltrated the universe of yuppie, collar-popping intellectuals everywhere.

But what of us sleep-deprived, simple college-going folk? Are we to be excluded from this portion of elitist sub-culture, masquerading under the pretense of superiority? Do we all fail miserably in meeting the standards of entry into this pompous and impenetrable posse? To these questions I emphatically answer, no.

Far too often we stumble upon these stereotypes of who can and can't enjoy a good trip to the opera house, and I think it's gone on far too long. I'm here, ladies and gentlemen, to implore each and every one of you to go out and take a chance at what could be an amazing experience; I tempt you to go see an opera.

Wow, what an amazing coincidence, because one of the most famous of all operas just happens to be coming to Cal Poly's own

Performing Arts Center next week. Verdi's "La Traviata" will make an appearance here March 23 and 24 at 7:30 p.m.

A tragic tale of star-crossed love, where fate meets inevitable despair, "La Traviata" proves to be a sight to be seen. For those of you cringing at the mention of such operatic royalty, I dare say, grow up. It's time to join the ranks of the well-adjusted.

Set in 19th century Paris, "La Traviata" is a four act drama by Giuseppe Verdi, based on the novel "La Dame aux Camélias" by Alexandre Dumas.

Literally meaning, "The woman who strayed," "La Traviata" tells the tale of two lovers, Alfredo, a young man of noble birth, and Violetta, the courtesan he falls madly in love with. If red flags are popping up in your mind right about now, you wouldn't be wrong to do so. Oddly enough, there's no "happily ever after" for these two lovebirds.

As the recipe of any good dramatic love story seems to call for, "La Traviata" is bursting at the

seams with an amazingly disheartening back-story, leading the audience on an emotional up and down horror ride through life's unfortunate twists and turns.

In true "Romeo and Juliet" fashion, Alfredo and Violetta are forced to deal with one obstacle after another, culminating in a tragic display of life's little ironies.

With a very lyrical assortment of poignant dialogue, deftly created scenes, and entertaining music, "La Traviata" is one of the best of the best. It has endured not only the test of time, but has also challenged the emotional prosperity of us as human beings.

If you enjoyed Baz Luhrmann's 2001 film, "Moulin Rouge," you will undoubtedly enjoy the famous opera it was based on; minus a few production adjustments and historical rearrangements, of course.

So, to all you boys and girls anxiously sitting on the edge of your seats waiting for the "cool bus" to come up your alley, may I point out that here it comes now. Buy a ticket and get on the opera bus.

pop tart

by Alexandra Bezdikian

GUEST COMMENTARY

The 'green' paradox strikes in Hollywood

Allison Baker

SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

Ten years ago, if you came home to your mom and told her you were "going green," she might retort that, "Green hair wouldn't do much for your tawny complexion."

Now, "going green" is more often associated with environmental sustainability and those oddly-shaped hybrid cars. This growing trend has found its way among university scholars, former presidential candidates and even made an appearance at the 2007 Academy Awards. Going green isn't just for

hippies or paranoid crazies who scold Starbucks patrons for neglecting to recycle their postconsumer cups. It is bandwagon-ready and set to charm or scare the heck out of the masses.

"Going green," just like any other trend, made a significant splash in Hollywood, where the Academy Awards boasted its first-ever totally "green" ceremony. But they must have been confused; "green" stands for global sustainability, not money. Although I commend the Academy for its efforts, it is awfully hard to take an industry that profits from selling us things

we don't need seriously. As for touting sustainability, Hollywood can hardly sustain audiences for over 30 minutes, let alone the four hours they held viewers captive until they announced the winner of "Best Picture."

Truly devoted allies of the environment should have turned their televisions off the second Al Gore walked up to receive his award for "An Inconvenient Truth;" while the actual awards were reportedly "green," the billion or so viewers watching their TV sets in their

see Green, page 11

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Green

continued from page 9

heated homes were not. That, and Gore's acceptance speech was preachy and predictable.

While I agree that the proliferation of global sustainability is an important step toward realizing that as humans, we are incredibly wasteful and reckless creatures, I am not convinced that the Hollywood crowd should be the ones advertising it. Yes, most citizens care more about who is going to the Oscars than who is attending the National Democratic Convention; but, should the country really be led, for example, by a city smothered in smog and cement? This, my friends, is what I like to call "the paradox of 'green.'"

The hypocrisy of Hollywood's supporting sustainability has, no doubt, tainted the movement's credibility. After its leading role in the Academy Award ceremony, many have found its goals undermined by the entertainment industry — especially because Melissa Etheridge's song "I Need to Wake Up," from "An Inconvenient Truth," robbed "Dreamgirls" of its Oscar. To do some damage control, I have devised a plan to regain the public's trust and confidence:

Step 1: Vacate power-leaching Hollywood, and try to find a location more supportive of the cause. Might I suggest Humboldt County? The people there are already environmentally conscious, and Humboldt has an impressive



COURTESY PHOTO

Former Vice President Al Gore traveled the country promoting his Academy Award-winning film "An Inconvenient Truth."

amount of greenery. Unfortunately, such "greenery" is later smoked and contributes to yet more pollution, which is why the second step is essential.

Step 2: Do away with the "green" slogan. Sure, grass is green and Earth appears green from space, but don't forget that the color green also symbolizes envy, greed, novice, illness and Kermit the Frog. It doesn't look good to be associated with a creature that once claimed "it isn't easy being green." Speaking of slippery creatures, I can think of another that may be detrimental to the movement: Al Gore. Hence, my third suggestion:

Step 3: Dump Gore. Is it just me, or does the washed-up politician-turned movie star seem to spend more time eating Eskimo Pies than

saving Eskimos? In lieu of Gore, I recommend Hillary Rodham Clinton. I know what you're thinking, but if anyone knows long-term sustainability it's the woman who has sustained a marriage with Bill Clinton for nearly 30 years. Gore was only able to last eight.

Finally, in order to prevent the world from melting, then flooding, then spontaneously combusting (I added that last one), the issue of global sustainability must be known to the world.

To heighten awareness, I think a hydrogen blimp should tour the skies with a sign that says some sort of clever slogan telling the world to buy electric cars, recycle and subsist only with solar power. OK, so I haven't quite ironed out the kinks in my plan, but with a few modifications ... it'll catch on.

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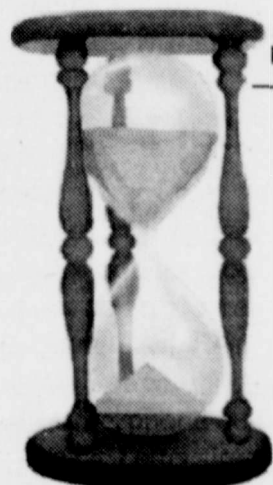
Check out what's going on in SLO County this week. Whether it's art, film, music, theater or culture, POLYBILL posts the latest events.

The San Luis Obispo Art Center will hold a book signing and lecture by artist Robert Reynolds March 25 at 2 p.m. entitled "The Making of an Art Book: the Agony and the Ecstasy." The artist's book, "Quiet Journey: The Art of Robert Reynolds," illustrates his professed love affair with nature. Call (805) 543-8562 for more information.

Cal Poly journalism professor Martin Sosna presents his play "Stages" at the Pewter Plough Playhouse March 21 at 7:30 p.m. The play is part of Pewter Plough's free reader's theatre program, and tells the story of one woman's life experiences. Call (805) 927-3877 for more information.

WWW.MUSTANGDAILY.NET

JESSICA GREENWALT MUSTANG DAILY



Mustang Daily TIME CAPSULE

March 15

- 1873: Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity is founded at Massachusetts Agricultural College.
- 1916: President Woodrow Wilson sends 12,000 United States troops over the U.S.-Mexico border to pursue Pancho Villa.
- 1956: The Broadway musical "My Fair Lady" opens in New York City.
- 1972: The film version of Mario Puzo's novel "The Godfather" is released in theaters and goes on to be considered one of the greatest films of all time.

Having a "Blast" at Julian's

Melissa Montecucollo
CAMPUS DINING STAFF WRITER

In recent years, Julian's has been associated with their delicious variety of coffee. But it didn't start out that way. In fact when the Julian McPhee University Union first opened in 1971, the space was used for a Barber Shop.

About two years later, the space was then converted for "The Ice Cream Parlour," according to Jeanette Kimball BackStage Pizza and Julian's manager. It wasn't until the mid 1980's that Julian's changed its name and began serving coffee in addition to ice cream and milkshakes.

Now they serve a variety of coffee and non-coffee options in order to please any taste-bud. For several years now, Julian's has been serving the

increasingly popular variety of "Blasts."

There are three types of Blasts: Java, Fruit Tea, and Chai. Each include a frapachino mix for thickness and are blended with ice. All the blasts can add a shot of Torani Syrup for flavor. Julian's has 12 regular and three sugar free syrups.

The Java Blasts include espresso and nonfat milk. The Fruit Tea contains one of five different fruit tea flavors (Strawberry, Wildberry, Passion Orange Guava, Coconut Pineapple, and Peach.) Julian's only uses one flavor at a time, because of space constraints, and when they run out the next customer gets to pick the flavor used next. And there are six flavors of Chai tea used for the blasts.

Julian's also serves a variety of other options. Freezes are a popular choice among students, according to Julian's supervisor, Patti Reaves. The freezes are similar to a float but the ice and soda are blended together. During the summer months the sherbets and mist sodas are very popular.

Julian's also serves Italian sodas and has 16 different flavors of ice cream. They always have two sherbets, one yogurt, one sugar free, and the traditional strawberry, vanilla, and chocolate. The other nine flavors are then rotated.

Despite its small location, Julian's sells a large variety of coffee and ice cream. "We hold a lot of stuff in that little place," said Reaves.

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SM Airport	5:45 AM	8:45 AM
Buellton	6:15 AM	9:15 AM
Santa Barbara	7:00 AM	10:00 AM
LAX	9:30 AM	12:30 PM
San Pedro		1:30 PM
Long Beach		1:45 PM

Northbound Departures

Locations	Route 2	Route 4
Long Beach	11:00 AM	
San Pedro	11:30 AM	
LAX	12:15 PM	2:45 PM
Santa Barbara	2:30 PM	5:30 PM
Buellton	3:15 PM	6:15 PM
SM Airport	4:00 PM	7:00 PM
Pismo Outlets	4:30 PM	7:30 PM
SLO	4:45 PM	7:45 PM
Cal Poly	5:00 PM	8:00 PM

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Mustang Daily

"I totally thought they were underwear."

DATING COLUMN

The game of love: a different play

It's basketball season, and March Madness is on.

Now, I'm not about to go into detail about my picks for the Final Four. Don't get me wrong; I love basketball in more than just a passing fashion. (Kudos to our teams, by the way!) But you can have a chat with our awesomely expert Mustang Daily sports editors if you have basketball on the brain.

Meanwhile, we can have a chat about another kind of game.

They call it "the game of love." (I don't know who "they" are, but I've always wondered about this nameless, faceless "they" who seem to know and "say" everything.) We tend to think of it as nothing but a metaphor, an abstraction; nevertheless, it's a familiar saying.

For as many times as we've heard it used, it's time to ask: what exactly is the game of love, and why is it called that?

According to the Oxford English Dictionary (an English major's best friend), a game is a diversion: an amusement; an entertainment; in short, something fun and enjoyable. Certainly, the "chase" part of the game of love can be one of most fun, best parts of a relationship.

There's action, anticipation, and excitement for players, both the pursuer and the pursued. Literary romantic pursuits are portrayed as even more sport-like, where there's a "hunter" and a "hunted." (Think Cupid and his quiver of love-inducing arrows, which, by the way, hit you in the eyes, not the heart. Ask an English major sometime.)

This assumes, of course, the pursued/hunted want to be pursued/hunted. The chase is exciting because of the potential or

promised reward after all the effort, and the expectation that all the effort will be worth it in the end.

The definition also deems a game "a contest"; that is, a competition.

As Cal Poly offspring, we're competitive individuals by nature (after all, we had to fight tooth-and-nail against a flood of other stellar academic and extracurricular resumes to get in). We tend to think of competition as between two parties, struggling against each other for the win.

There are plenty of stories about two lovers vying for the affection of a particular beloved. While two buzzed buddies hitting on the same girl at the bar is a bit removed from two knights jousting for the honor of a lady, the same basic principle is there.

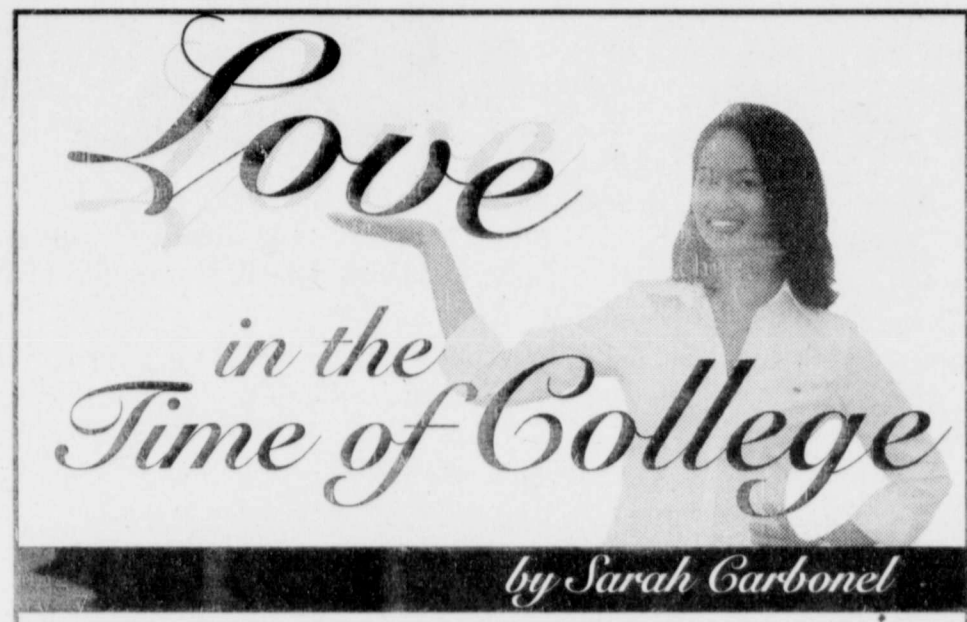
But the game of love isn't quite as simple as "The Bachelor."

In relationships, sometimes the most challenging competition is

The chase is exciting
because of the potential
or promised reward after
all the effort ...

against oneself. We compete against our fears, impulses, and sometimes what we think is our better judgment, in making relationship-related decisions.

Maybe you shy away from new relationships because of a painful breakup. Maybe you recklessly jump from one relationship to another. Maybe there's that one person who just won't give you a chance.



Whatever the case, our personal natures and experiences affect the way we formulate a plan of attack. Sometimes they can be a weakness, and prevent us from moving forward. But if we don't allow them to limit our perspectives, they can instead be advantageous, if we use them as tools in our repertoire.

Skill does have something to do with "winning" (which in this case means success in relationships), and there are two specific skills in reference here: that of learning from previous experiences, and of employing that learning in future decisions.

Naturally, in a game, you try out different tactics. If one doesn't work, you try another one. If the defense puts the dampers on one play, you take a different approach. You go with the one that works best for you in a particular situation.

Strength also comes in when applying these skills to real-life situations. It isn't easy to let go of the past, to admit you were mistaken, to dare step out of your comfort zone. But the only way to make a basket is to take a shot.

As for the "winner," there are some who choose to label others as winners or losers. Some people think there's a second place and third place, silver and bronze medals. Others believe it's only the gold that counts.

But the "winner" in the game of love doesn't beat out all the others for first place. You win by finding a relationship in which you can be yourself. By finding a significant other who you value, and who values you just as you are; and by finding a compatibility that encourages you both to develop your individual skill sets for the game of life.

In all this, we still haven't pinpointed the object of the game, which is not as simple as merely "winning." There's much more to be had from the experience itself than just the victory of accomplishment. You learn from working things out yourself. No self-help book, no class — and no dating column — can teach you what you will learn from being out there.

All games have rules. The object of the game of love is figuring out how to play.

Sarah Carbonel is an English and psychology junior and Mustang Daily dating columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Killings in Iraq do not reflect Arab culture

"Sam Goodly, San Luis Obispo Resident" PHEW! Just another misplaced and amateurish man dwelling on the likely rejection from Cal Poly's admissions office.

Sam, please do not attempt to claim that the unfortunate killings between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims (conveniently starting after Bush's invasion of Iraq) are a fair reflection of the Arab culture. Are the thousands of lives lost during the American Civil War a fair portrayal of the American culture? Now, about these 4,000 Katyusha rockets fired into Israel by Hezbollah, allow me to educate you. Those 4,000 rockets were shot into Israel causing 47 deaths, while over 100,000 cluster bombs,

said to be of illegal use, were used by Israel causing over 1,140 Lebanese deaths (30 percent children) and 913,760 displaced Lebanese civilians. That 4,000 is a big number, Sam, but relative to what?

The homemade crude Kassam rockets used by the people of Gaza against the fourth most powerful military in the world seems comical to bring up. Once again, your use of big numbers cannot fool me. Four Israeli lives have been taken by these rockets, while 341 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza by Israeli Apache helicopters, Israeli F-16 jets and Israeli tanks.

Maybe you have not heard about Cal Poly's reputation, Sam. We have some of the brightest minds in the country, so please, don't insult our intelligence by throwing out big numbers and expect them to blind us. Go read a book, educate yourself, and then maybe we can talk.

Nadeen Qaru

Construction management senior

Party politics aside, extremists are the problem

This is in response to Nick Utschig's letter on March 13 ("Jesus wouldn't pick political parties, but he's a pinko"). Let's get the facts straight, Nick. How can you quote the Bible, a book you admitted to not believing in yourself as an atheist, to support your arguments? But since you insist, I will respond.

How is it disrespectful to put God's name on money. You say money is "the roots of all sorts of evil"?

Wrong. What the Bible says in 1 Timothy 6:10 is that, "For the LOVE of money is a root of all kinds of evil." Notice how I use the entire verse, Nick, not just the part that proves my point. Money itself is not the problem. When you ask if God wants to be taught alongside such violent history, I say why not? Wasn't he the reason for many of history's bloodiest conflicts (i.e. The Crusades)?

When it comes to your stance

on invading Iran, do you, Nick, feel safe with a radical, extremist government in control of the deadliest weapon in existence? Sure, they're just enriching uranium for energy production, riiiiiiight. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (the Iranian president) has already proclaimed his hatred for Israel and his plans to wipe Israel and its allies off the map. Feeling safe still?

Finally, the Geneva Convention protects the rights of combatants who are fighting in distinct uniforms, not people dressed in civilian clothes. In no way does it protect any crazed, radically religious extremist dressed in plain clothes with plans to kill innocent human beings by flying planes into buildings or blowing up improvised exploding devices.

I think you're the pinko, Nick. Not Jesus.

Zach Oates

Civil engineering junior

see Letters, page 14

GUEST COMMENTARY

Hate vs. free speech

I'm writing in an attempt to clarify the current debate on free speech, specifically regarding "hate speech." Although I'm not an expert on civil liberties and constitutional law, I felt the need to correct some misnomers circulating around campus and this newspaper.

From what I understand, "hate speech" can only be restricted or outlawed if it constitutes "fighting words" (see: *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*). Or, according to the Supreme Court's majority opinion in *Chaplinsky*, words are hateful when they "are not essential part of any exposition of ideas."

If the creators of the posters decided not to quote the Quran and instead print words like "sand-monkey," "towel-head" or something far more hideous, that would be classified as hate speech (because they offer no real value to any meaningful "exposition of ideas").

This qualification of certain speech as "hateful" led to the creation of speech codes that aimed to restrict speech. However, subsequent federal court rulings struck down speech codes on the basis that they were vague and failed to specify what form of expressive conduct was and was not allowed.

Due to the subjectivity of judicial precedent on the matter (as well as volatility for the outcome of future cases), the issue remains obscured and the challenge is clear: strike the proper balance between protecting free speech and maintaining a fair and harmonious educational environment.

Now comes a bit of my own opinion on the matter. I think the signs are essential to allowing an "exposition of ideas."

Although I've never seen the signs before, I've heard that they quote scripture from the Quran, out of context and use it to defame Islam.

I argue not only that the signs are, in fact, protected by the First Amendment, but that they are con-

ducive to cultivating an environment of critical thinking and providing an "exposition of ideas" within the university.

Proponents of speech codes have argued that preserving the peace on campuses trumps free speech rights. The desire for this in the public domain is completely reasonable, but universities are different. They are supposed to be bastions of thought. That means that my beliefs and opinions will be under constant assault, thus motivating me to strengthen and defend them. Isn't that what education is all about?

Where I draw the line on assaulting others' beliefs is found in the above quote from *Chaplinsky*.

The assault must be a substantive assault, not vain ad hominem. It must contribute to meaningful dialogue and appeal to the intellect, not the emotions. Emotions may be riled up in the process, but a true intellectual battle is waged with ideas, not with rocks, fists or Molotov cocktails.

My religion is consistently slandered. Scripture is taken out of context to vilify and falsely portray my religion. Does this mean I should advocate for this disagreeable language to be made illegal? Staunch criticism to my ideas is cowardly. Let me have it. I can adequately defend what I believe because my beliefs have undergone so much constructive assault.

Although I am not a Muslim myself, I readily admit that the signs are fallacious defamation. However, if they were directed at my religion, I would welcome it (albeit begrudgingly and dishearteningly).

The purpose for the existence of an academic institution is to inspire, cultivate and critically assess ideas. Of all places in society (business offices, public squares, etc.), universities should be last on the list for restricting First Amendment rights.

Audrey Crescenti
Political science and history
sophomore

GUEST COMMENTARY

Why neo-cons had the worst week ever

If there has been one consistent theme in American politics for the past few years, it's that the stories we hear about the conservative White House and their apologists get progressively worse. I guess that explains how this president went from a 92 percent approval rating (yes, it actually was once that high) to a 29 percent rating.

With that said though, I am going to call a bottom and say that last week will go down as the *worst week ever* in the modern conservative era; but be glad, conservatives — this means things can only get better from here on out.

To be fair though, this bad news isn't directed towards traditional conservatives like the followers of Ronald Reagan, Barry Goldwater and Pat Buchanan. Last week's news rests solely with the neo-conservatives — the nebulous political-mutation that has masqueraded itself as true conservatism recently in Washington, D.C. Personally, I wish I could better define neo-conservatism, but the sad truth is that neo-cons can't even define it. That's why their policymaking skills suck so much.

With that distinction made clear, it's time to look at what hit the fan this week to make it so awful. Let's begin with the worst news of all: the scandal at Walter Reed Medical Center.

For the past several years, neo-conservatives in the White House and in the media (i.e. Fox News) have proclaimed that they are the only ones who truly "support the troops," since they believe anyone who criticize this administration is somehow undermining our army.

However, the Walter Reed scandal has profoundly exposed the shallowness of this ridiculous argument. Not only was this "troop supporting" administration completely unaware of the hundreds of wounded soldiers living in deplorable conditions at Walter Reed, which is only a few blocks from the White House, but this administration is also partly to blame for causing the problem.

According to CNN, in January 2006 the Pentagon administration, who were under Donald Rumsfeld, gave \$120 million of privatization contracts to run Walter Reed to a company named IAP. For those unaware, IAP is the same company that couldn't

even get ice down to New Orleans to aid Hurricane Katrina victims.

Why the hell this administration thought that IAP could run a military hospital given the Katrina incident is beyond me. Maybe it's because IAP is run by Al Neffgen, a former senior Halliburton official. Hmmm.

As bad as Walter Reed was for the neo-con movement (not to mention the whole country), other awful events for conservatives transpired, including Ann Coulter's tactless comments at the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC).

Anyone familiar with Coulter should not be surprised by her comments, considering her polemic style and complete disregard for standards; remember this is the same woman who once said that "(The USA) would be a much better country if women did not vote." I mean, how F'd up do you need to be to say something like that?

Nevertheless, Coulter's statements were shocking for many others and turned what should have been a positive political rally into another political casualty for conservatives since it further alienated them from the moderates.

If those events weren't bad enough for neo-conservatives, there was also the highly publicized trial against Scooter Libby, Dick Cheney's former chief of staff. Although I was right in my Jan. 29 column when I said that Libby was "Soooooo Going to Jail," many neo-con apologists revel in the fact that Libby will probably be pardoned. Yet even with the pardon Libby is now a convicted felon and is the highest White House official to be convicted since Iran-Contra.

The burning symbolism of this fact cannot be extinguished by a simple pardon. People will point to this trail as just another example of how this neo-con administration overstepped the law, and attempted to conceal information from the public. How ironic considering that during the 2000 elections then presidential-hopeful George W. Bush said: "America is looking for someone to restore honor and dignity to the White House. That's what America is looking for."

Patrick Molnar
Business sophomore

Columnist Lineup

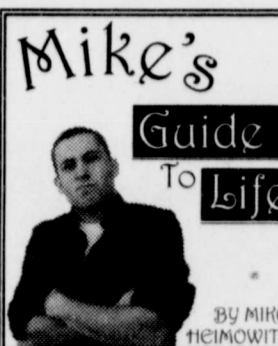
MONDAY

Liberal-Zach Austin



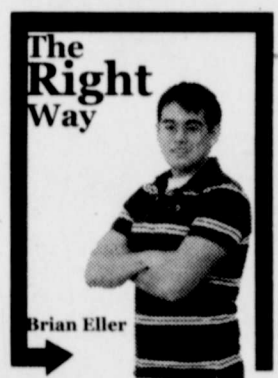
TUESDAY

Humor-Mike Heimowitz



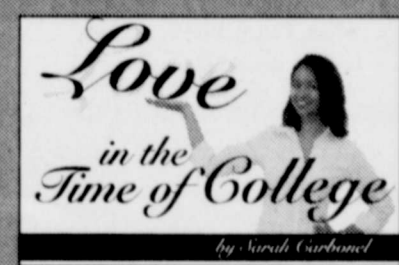
WEDNESDAY

Conservative-Brian Eller



TODAY

Dating-Sarah Carbonel



FRIDAY

Traveler
Checks

WANT MORE???

Check in with these online columnists at www.mustangdaily.net!

MONDAY-SUSTAINABILITY

The Green Spot
by Jesse Churchill

TUESDAY-HUMOR

The Bunion
by Daniel Gingras

WEDNESDAY

Book Reviews

THURSDAY-MOVIE REVIEWS

The Word on the Screen
by Ryan Chartrand

FRIDAY

How to Survive
by Daniella Orihuela-Gruber

Letters

continued from page 13

Police justified in carrying guns on campus

In response to the March 14, article entitled "UPD responds to gun threat," who do you think you are in complaining about the police officers carrying guns for your protection? Where do you get off complaining about guns? If a person is walking around campus with a loaded hand gun and endangering our safety, I sure as hell hope a police officer will be there in combat gear and ready to engage in an all out shootout.

Why would a police officer not have a gun ready when someone is walking around with a gun and perfectly capable of shooting and killing an innocent person? I feel that the Police Department was justified in its decision to carry rifles and shot-

guns to neutralize a potential threat. Next time you think about complaining about something, try to find something worth complaining about. I am happy that our police currently carry guns. Thank you for protecting me.

Micah Bowman
Bioresource and agricultural
engineering senior

Student organizations should set better examples

Montaña de Oro: a place of beauty and usually void of trash. On Monday, it seemed as though a new landfill was being planned near cable landing. Trash everywhere, water bottles, broken sleds and Cal Poly ASI Frisbees. It seemed certain that whoever was behind this trash heap would never be held accountable.

But oh wait, up on the hill — it's a bird, it's a plane, no, it's Gamma Phi Beta deeply etched into the hillside with a hoe, conveniently left behind as

well. How considerate. We would just like to thank them for setting a great example as how to show no respect for your surrounding environment. We hiked a few bags of trash out, in case you want it back, just let us know. The Frisbees are still in work-order.

John Burns
Biology senior
Morgan Partridge
Recreation administration senior

Sacramento Kings get unfair coverage

I just wanted to comment on the unfair treatment and bashing the Sacramento Kings receive from this paper. Every time I pick up my Mustang Daily, I normally turn to the back to read up on recent sports around the school. Occasionally, I notice there is a short article about the Kings, Lakers or Clippers. Here is where the problem is: when the article is about the Lakers the headlines

normally consist of "The Los Angeles Kobe Bryants win as the other four guys on the court cheered him to another glorious victor." (This is no exaggeration.) When the Kings make the Mustang Daily, it goes something like "That joke of a basketball team from Sacramento loses again as Ron Artest kills a visiting fan in the crowd." (Again, no exaggeration.)

Now I understand these articles are pulled from other sources, but it seems to me there is certain bias about when and where the articles are pulled from. Now when the Kings smashed the Lakers on March 2, I don't remember reading anything on that game. It has been a long season for me as a Kings fan and the Mustang Daily is not helping so take it easy on them its all we got in Sacramento, well, besides the Governor. P.S. I still hate Robert Horry.

Kyle Fletcher
Business administration sophomore

Great West

continued from page 16

Indiana State, Missouri State, Southern Illinois, Western Illinois and Youngstown State.

Gateway commissioner Patty Viverito said the league decided to expand for two reasons. One was because Western Kentucky left the league to join the Sun Belt Conference. Viverito said the other reason was because of the quality of programs NDSU and SDSU have.

On Aug. 31, 2006, NDSU formally accepted an invitation to the Mid-Continent Conference in all of its sports except football and wrestling because the league doesn't sponsor those sports.

NDSU leaves behind the Great West Football Conference, of which it was a member for the past three seasons.

"The Great West is an excellent conference, but the Gateway brings automatic qualifying, and they get multiple teams in the tournament year in and year out," NDSU athletics director Gene Taylor said. "This brings us more options for scheduling and qualifying for the NCAA Tournament."

The winner of the Gateway receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) playoffs.

If NDSU had stayed in the GWFC, it would have had to

receive one of eight at-large bids when it became playoff-eligible in 2008.

"We are really excited about the opportunities that present themselves with the Gateway Conference on the horizon," NDSU head coach Craig Bohl said.

To join the conference, NDSU had to pay a \$250,000 conference entrance fee.

NDSU also had to agree to pay \$500,000 if it leaves the conference before its eight-year conference contract expires.

Viverito said she isn't sure how the \$250,000 will be spent, but thinks it could be used to help subsidize travel costs for the teams to

travel to NDSU.

Travel costs were one of the only reasons why the league members were skeptical of NDSU and SDSU joining.

The conference held an annual meeting Feb. 19.

At the meeting, Chapman and Taylor presented a proposal to join. A vote wasn't held until after the meeting, and Viverito wouldn't say what the result was.

Viverito just said it was a "consensus" vote.

In the final 2006 Sports Network I-AA Top 25 poll, the Gateway had four teams ranked. At least two Gateway teams have made the postseason in each of the last 12 years.

Stanford set to take on Louisville

The 11th-seeded Cardinal faces the sixth-seeded Cardinals at 9:40 a.m. today.

Daniel Novinson

STANFORD DAILY (STANFORD)

PALO ALTO — The Cardinal, a No. 11 seed in the NCAA Tournament, will play sixth-seeded Louisville today in Lexington, Ky.

With a victory, Stanford would face the winner of the game between third-seeded Texas A&M and 14th-seeded Pennsylvania on Saturday for a chance to make its first Sweet 16 since 2001.

The Cardinal men found out the news the same way as its fans, privately watching CBS' selection show in its locker room. And the squad was just as excited as the faithful when it got the word.

"It was pandemonium," Stanford head coach Trent Johnson said. "A couple of them said, 'My goodness, Coach, I've never seen you like this.' I think it was Brook (Lopez) that knocked me over."

The first three announced regions of 16 — the Midwest, West and East — included fellow bubble teams Indiana, Illinois, Old Dominion, Purdue, Arkansas, Gonzaga and Texas Tech, but no Stanford. Still, the Cardinal held out hope for a spot in the South region.

And at 3:36 p.m., the magic word appeared on television sets around the country. Sixty-four teams had already been announced — Stanford was literally the last team into the tournament.

"Me and Brook were carrying Coach J," sophomore guard Anthony Goods said of the post-announcement celebration. "It was kind of like a double hug, and then we ended up picking him up because Brook is seven feet."

Johnny

continued from page 16

Even as a No. 5 seed, many consider Texas one of the most dangerous teams in the tourney, mainly because it has Durant (if you haven't heard of this guy, you don't deserve to watch the tournament.) This guy is a freak, straight up the greatest college basketball player I have ever seen. Granted, I have only been watching college basketball religiously for about 10 years, but still this guy is already a legend.

He won Big 12 Conference Player of the Year honors, averaging a cool 26 and 11. He also scored 30 points or more in 10 games this season. The NCAA Tournament is all about players rising to the occasion. There is no better player in the nation. This isn't even an argument. I don't care how young he is (18) or how deep the Longhorns are (not very). Durant can carry them for the duration of the tournament.

I read today that the U.S. is going to lose billions of dollars in lost production due to employees being caught up in March Madness. This could definitely lead to the unemployment line for some workers.

I can guarantee Cal Poly is going to lose one student come Thursday and Friday. Thank God Cal Poly can't fire me, or I probably would have been gone a couple years ago.

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The New York Times Crossword

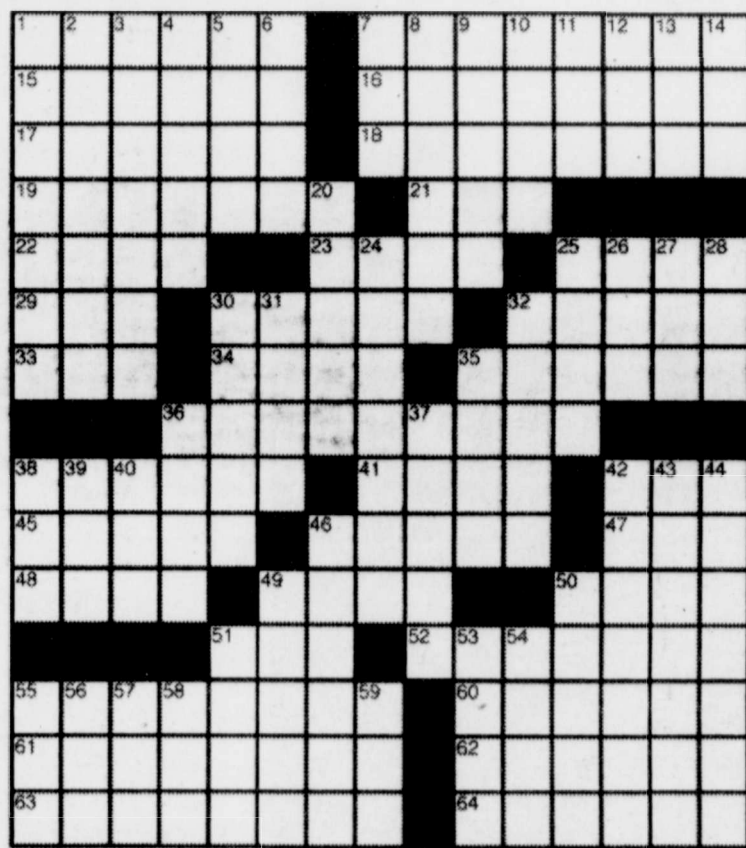
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0201

- ACROSS**
- Baron von Richthofen, e.g.
 - See 4-Down
 - Endangered cat
 - Corresponding directly
 - Drink once pitched by Nancy Sinatra
 - See 1-Down
 - Most sharp
 - Sta. purchase
 - Romeo's last words
 - Mid-American Conference team
 - Largest of seven
 - State on P.S.T.
 - Setting for a photographer
 - With 55-Across, quote from an auto-body shop
 - College sr.'s test
 - Solar disk
 - Cause of a chill

- What the answers to this puzzle's italicized clues all are
- In
- Pulitzer-winning science author Dubos
- Cable film channel inits.
- With 44-Down, not turning up as expected in a search
- Abuts
- Louis, e.g.
- mora (without delay, in Latin)
- Eye parts
- Lower, in a way
- Musical notes
- Some magic acts
- See 32-Across
- Lyrical musical passages

- DOWN**
- With 18-Across, busy person's getaway
 - Agreeable sort
 - Choice after a football coin toss
 - With 7-Across, like a couple romancing
 - Michael of "The Mod Squad"
 - Greek vowels
 - "Mazel —!"
 - How a better may act
 - Lizard with clingy toe pads
 - Conseil d'—
 - Toddler
 - polloi
 - "Another Green World" musician
 - Stimpy's TV pal
 - Ojibwa handicraft
 - Prestigious
 - Alliance
 - Start to fall
 - German pronoun
 - Call letters?
 - Sent in a hurry
 - Case for an ophthalmologist
 - Sea birds
 - Productive source



Puzzle by Michael S. Maurer

- River in the D-Day invasion
- Candy man
- Bad grades
- ... in "team"
- Large cask
- Lebanese port
- Enters
- See 45-Across
- Star of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"
- Lasso
- With 63-Across, a diner list
- Year of the Utah Winter Olympics
- Modern epidemic
- Equestrian equipment
- Hesitations
- Start to fall: Abbr.
- Calendar abbr.
- Time —
- Slalom part

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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WILLIE SEADEVIL
IMLATE TRAILERS
COATI CSI NINO
EMS AIR EGGO
ONTOAST NEE
BARROWS STRUIS
TRACE DII OUTIE
TRADE DNATEST
YEP SMOLDER
UTLO ADM APE
WAAAT SPY PITON
MISDEEDS ROLLON
ASSAMTFA ALKALI
WENTSOFT MESSE

UC Riverside men's hoops coach resigns, citing health issues

The Highlanders were 7-24 and 1-13 in the Big West Conference this season.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIVERSIDE — UC Riverside coach David Spencer resigned from the team Tuesday, citing health reasons.

"This has been the most difficult decision of my life," Spencer said in a statement. "I had waited my whole life to become a head coach, so to walk away from the job is painful."

Spencer had been granted a medical leave of absence in November for an undisclosed condition. His interim replacement was associate head coach Vonn Webb, who coached the

Highlanders to a 7-24 record.

Athletics Director Stan Morrison said the process for hiring a new coach would begin immediately.

"My foremost concern is for David's health and well-being," Morrison said. "Given the conversations that I have had with him, we both agree that it is time for him to move on and turn the reins over to a new coach."

Morrison said he expected Webb would apply for the position.

"Vonn Webb did an outstanding job under very challenging circumstances this past season," Morrison said.

Spencer was hired in March 2005 following a more than 30-year career as an assistant coach.

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3	8	9	4	5	7	2	1	6
5	7	2	8	1	6	3	9	4
4	6	1	9	2	3	8	5	7
7	1	5	6	3	8	4	2	9
9	4	6	2	7	1	5	3	8
8	2	3	5	9	4	7	6	1

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5 Poly wrestlers to begin NCAA Championships today



Cal Poly senior 133-pounder Darrell Vasquez (left) wrestles against Cal State Bakersfield freshman John Cardenas in Mott Gym on Jan. 26. Vasquez, who is ranked seventh in the nation in his weight class, won the match by a 13-4 major decision, helping the Mustangs to a 25-15 Pac-10 win.

The Mustangs have had 37 wrestlers place in the top eight at the Division I level.

Tristan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

As his team begins competition at the NCAA Championships today, Cal Poly wrestling head coach John Azevedo is not worried about the Mustangs' disappointing fourth-place finish at the Pac-10 Championships three weeks ago.

In fact, Azevedo feels that finish — after Cal Poly was expected to take at least second — could serve a purpose. The Mustangs wrestle today through Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills in Auburn Hills, Mich., with five individuals slated to compete.

"It was hard," Azevedo said of the

Pac-10 Championships. "I think these guys have recovered from that and are really looking forward to the nationals. We've had some guys injured. They're just getting healthier. The Pac-10 is good for them in some ways. I think they're more determined now."

After beginning the season ranked 17th nationally in the Wrestling International Newsmagazine poll, injury-riddled Cal Poly lost six of its first nine dual meets. The Mustangs, though, battled back to finish with a dual meet record of 7-9 overall and 5-4 in the Pac-10.

The five Mustangs who will compete at the national championships are 133-pound senior Darrell Vasquez (28-3), 141-pound senior Dave Roberts (12-7), 157-pound redshirt freshman Chase Pami (20-11), 197-pound senior Matt Monteiro (21-6) and senior heavyweight Cody Parker

(18-6).

In the USA Today NWCA InterMat Division I Wrestling Coaches Poll, Vasquez is ranked seventh nationally in his weight class, Monteiro 17th and Parker 10th.

While Vasquez won the Pac-10 title and both Monteiro and Parker were second to clinch spots at the national championships, Roberts and Pami were each fourth before receiving at-large bids.

To finish the season as an All-American, wrestlers must finish in the top eight of their respective weight classes at nationals.

"Individually, I think each of the guys would want to become an All-American," Azevedo said. "I know Darrell is really looking at becoming a national champ. All of the guys are excited to go battle for it."

Cal Poly will also be trying to improve on its 23rd-place finish at

NCAAs last year.

"As a team, if the guys perform the way they're capable, we could be a top-15 or top-10 team," Azevedo said.

Vasquez has won 11 straight matches and 16 of his last 17 overall, with the only loss in that stretch coming via a 4-3 decision against Oklahoma State's Coleman Scott on Dec. 20.

"It's important," Azevedo said of Vasquez's final collegiate action. "He's very capable. He's shown he's one of the best. I think he feels very confident. We just have to take it one (match) at a time. We've been looking at him finishing up with a national title. That's definitely what we're thinking and hoping for."

Monteiro had won five straight before suffering a 10-7 loss to Cal State Bakersfield's Brandon Halsey on Feb. 24. Parker had won five straight himself before losing 8-2 to Oregon State's Ty Watterson on Feb. 24.

"Those guys are both capable of being All-Americans," Azevedo said of Monteiro and Parker. "For Matt, that would be good. He's excited to go wrestle well. We've seen he'll have wins over guys that are ranked. He can beat anyone on a given day."

Roberts has been up and down most of the season after recovering from arthroscopic knee surgery. He competed in only one match from Dec. 3 to Jan. 20.

"Dave is healing up," Azevedo said. "He's feeling good and healthy. He wrestled (at NCAAs) last year and was in the round of 12. He could surprise some people and knock some people off."

Pami has lost two of his last three matches but has enjoyed a breakout season after going 8-3 last year. He could easily be ranked, as five of his 11 losses are by a single point.

"(Pami) could surprise some people too," Azevedo said. "As a freshman, it's great to get there and get the experience."

The Mustangs departed for the Detroit area Tuesday, two days before anyone takes the mat.

"We're going there to take care of business," Azevedo said. "The guys are ready, I can see that."

Johnny in the Box



Let's dance!

John Middlekauff
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

March Madness, anyone?

As I fill out my bracket, I find myself with all sorts of conundrums. Can I really put Winthrop in the Elite Eight? What's Florida's deal? Can Kevin Durant keep this up?

Then I get to that Tennessee-Long Beach State game. I mean, what do I do here? I mean, this team just shattered my dreams. Not including my rocking chair that was thrown against the wall, and some vintage souvenir Dodger baseball bat that's now in two pieces in the middle of Hathway Avenue.

Long Beach State absolutely ruined my night, weekend, pretty much this entire month. I was so fired up to be in the NCAA Tournament, it was insane.

Then another team from Southern California decided to ruin my dreams. I have legitimately cried three times in the last five years and they have all been because of the Los Angeles area — Saturday night when Cal Poly lost 94-83 to Long Beach State in the Big West Conference Tournament championship game, 2005 when Matt Leinart decided to stay in school and forced the 49ers to take Alex Smith instead and 2002 when the Angels beat the Giants in Game 7 of the World Series (still hurts).

Seriously, do I pick Long Beach State just to make the Big West look better? No, I can't. That should be the Mustangs instead.

But something inside is telling me that Long Beach State might have a little run in it. That No. 12 seed has been known to make some noise.

Next year is Cal Poly's turn. I already have the Mustangs in the Elite Eight for 2008.

Back to the bracket.

Mark my words — Winthrop will be in the Elite Eight. You'd better watch out because for those who didn't realize, this team is for real. It would have beaten Tennessee last year if it wasn't for a last second 3-pointer, and played Gonzaga tough two years ago. The Eagles have three players who average more than 13 points a game. This team's for real.

How about defending national champion Florida? Well, the Gators are favored by 29 points against scrappy Jackson State. I like Florida in the Final Four. It has the experience, players and attitude to get back to the championship game. But this is where the Gators' attempt to repeat will fall a bit short.

I have Texas beating Florida for the national championship.

Bruins PG Collison suffers ankle injury

Seeded second in the West Region, UCLA is set to take on 15th-seeded Weber State at 4:25 p.m. today.

Sagar Parikh
DAILY BRUIN (UCLA)

LOS ANGELES — After two straight losses to inferior teams, the UCLA men's basketball team received some potentially damaging news following practice Tuesday.

Sophomore point guard Darren Collison, who missed the Bruins'

game against West Virginia earlier this season with an injured left shoulder, sustained a grade-one high left ankle sprain but is probable to play for UCLA's first-round NCAA Tournament game against Weber State today.

A grade-one sprain is defined as slight stretching and some damage to the fibers (fibrils) of the ligament which, in Collison's case, is in the high left ankle.

The Bruins practiced at UCLA on Tuesday afternoon, and flew on a charter plane to Sacramento on Tuesday night.

2 schools ditch Great West, leave behind Poly, UC Davis, Southern Utah

North Dakota State and South Dakota State will play in the Gateway Football Conference beginning in 2008.

Todd Deutsch
THE SPECTRUM (NORTH DAKOTA STATE U.)

FARGO, N.D. — For the second time in just more than five months, North Dakota State President Joseph Chapman announced NDSU has accepted an invitation to join an athletic

conference.

On March 7, Chapman said the football team would join the Gateway Football Conference, beginning play in the fall of 2008.

"This certainly brings us to the level of Division I competition we wanted to achieve," Chapman said.

South Dakota State also joined the conference, bringing the total number of teams to nine.

Other universities include: Northern Iowa, Illinois State,

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